Note for Pages, Robert

From: Pages, Robert

Date: Fri, Sep 10, 1993 3:05 PM

Subject: New Paper: ETS in Restaurants

To: Lattanzio, Ted

Cc: Logue, Mayada; Opocensky, Margaret; Parrish, Steve; Purcell, Clare

This morning, Max Eisenberg alerted me to and faxed me a copy of a paper that has just appeared in the Sep issue of the American Journal of Public Health:

William E. Lambert, Jonathan M. Samet, and John D. Spengler. Environmental tobacco smoke concentrations in no-smoking and smoking sections of restaurants. American Journal of Public Health. 83(9):1339-1341; 1993 September.

Abstract:
"To characterize the effectiveness of a local ordinance that restricts smoking in restaurants to one third of the seating area, this study made simultaneous measurements of two markers of environmental tobacco smoke, respirable suspended particles and nicotine, in the smoking and no-smoking sections of seven restaurants. The mean concentrations of respirable suspended particles and nicotine were 40% and 65% lower, respectively, in the no-smoking than in the smoking sections, indicating substantial but not complete protection against exposure."

Quotes from discussion:
"The pattern of consistently lower levels of respirable suspended particles and nicotine in the no-smoking relative to the smoking areas indicates that the Albuquerque ordinance can be effective in restaurants, regardless of how the individual restaurant management may choose to implement the policy. The greatest protection was afforded by seating arrangements in which a wall or partition physically segregated smokers from non-smokers (Figures 1 and 2; restaurant 2). But even for floor plans that basically involved one large room (e.g., restaurant 4), substantial protection of the air of non-smokers was still observed."
"It is important to recognize that the reduction of environmental tobacco smoke concentrations we observed.....although substantial, was not complete. In fact, concentrations of nicotine were as high in no-smoking sections of some restaurants as in smoking sections of others."
"While these types of ordinances do not provide perfect protection, our measurements indicate that people sitting in the no-smoking areas of restaurants are exposed to substantially lower concentrations of environmental tobacco smoke than those in smoking areas. A systematic monitoring survey of a representative sample of public places is necessary for a comprehensive evaluation of the policy of establishing no-smoking and smoking areas in public buildings."

Note: This paper was accepted for publication, with revisions, on December 16, 1992 and does NOT reference a draft EPA risk assessment on ETS. Samet served on the EPA SAB panel that reviewed the EPA risk assessment. There is mention in the paper that the data generated in this study were presented at a public hearing in November, 1989 on renewal of the Albuquerque city ordinance "where the council used the findings in evaluating the

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efficacy of the regulation. The council voted to maintain, and not to lower, the two thirds to one third ratio for restaurant seating, and the ordinance was renewed without time limits."

Copies of the paper will be sent as soon as we receive a good copy from Eisenberg.

copies via fax:
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H. Reif

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/xljx0000